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WOMEN used to think "female diseases" could only be treated after "local examinations" by physicians. Dread of such treatment kept thousands of modest women silent about their suffering. The introduction of Wine of Cardui has now demonstrated that nine-tenths of all the cases of menstrual disorders do not require a physician's attention at all. This simple, pure  
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# THE COMMONWEALTH.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.  
"EXCELSIOR" IS OUR MOTTO.  
VOL. XIV. New Series--Vol. 3. SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 28, 1898. NO. 31  
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## THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

**Points and Paragraphs of Things Present, Past and Future.**  
It is much better to labor for small remuneration than to labor not at all. Some people will not labor, unless they can get their own price, losing more time waiting for their "price" than they utilize in labor at a good price. To say nothing of price, it is never safe to be idle long at a time.

The adventurer is always at hand. Some enterprising concern has already offered Lieutenant Hobson ten thousand dollars to travel through the United States and lecture on his adventure and capture at Santiago. Such brave men as Hobson are not easily hired to exhibit themselves in the show business. No doubt Lt. Hobson might make some money at such a pass for awhile, but he would soon forfeit much of the admiration which the American people and the whole world now lay at his feet.

Of course women often think that things like the following are fresh illustrations of how some one is always bothering with what does not bother him; but it is quite a sensible thing after all. Don't you think it sensible?

Hosodin Bogoljewow, the newly appointed Russian minister of public instruction, has begun the duties of his office by issuing a drastic order to the effect that corsets must not be worn by Russian young women attending high schools, universities, and music and art schools. They are to be encouraged to wear the national costume. The minister says that he has spent much time in visiting girls' schools, and has made the discovery that the corset as an article of dress is distinctly prejudicial to the health and physical development of the wearers.

**Race Prejudice?** Why certainly. It has existed all down the ages. Even the Jews would have no dealings with the Samaritans long ago. But as to the colored race, which is nearly one-tenth of the population of this country, there is prejudice on both sides. The colored people and the white people both hold the prejudice. And however much some of our deluded Northern brethren and friends may believe that all the race prejudice is in the South, such facts as the following give pointed correction to that error. A New England paper recently printed the following:

"There is a colored regiment in camp at Springfield, Ill., along with a lot of white volunteers, and the two races are clashing so frequently as to threaten serious trouble. Governor Tanner wanted to lead his troops to Cuba, but he is apparently unable to govern them at home while they are preparing to go to the front."

In many country homes there are very few books. In many more there are practically no books at all. And in some homes there is absolutely nothing in the way of books and papers more than a patent medicine almanac. These facts escape the notice of most of us, but they are none-the-less true. Every home, however humble, could manage to have at least a weekly paper, and a weekly paper that is edited with the proper care is a medium of much good information. This information would oft-times be very helpful to boys and girls, and a means of creating in them a thirst for knowledge of a different character.

Many of us could do a helpful work to boys and girls who live in homes without books by donating now and then a book which we have read and for which we have no further use.

There is no influence more wholesome in the home than good books; and perhaps there is nothing which poor people need more than even a few good books.

"During the hot weather last summer I had a severe attack of cholera morbus, necessitating my leaving my business," says Mr. C. A. Hare, of Hare Bros., Fincastle, Ohio. "After taking two or three doses of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy I was completely relieved and in a few hours was able to resume my work in the store. I sincerely recommend it to any one afflicted with stomach or bowel trouble." For sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

## INTER-NATIONAL ARBITRATION.

**THE WAY TO SETTLE DIFFERENCES.**  
**Present-Day Thoughts.**  
BY G. GROSVENOR DAWE.  
(Copyrighted by Dawe & Tabor.)

There is common sense in international arbitration. It brings into existence between nations the same sweet reasonableness that characterizes civilized individuals. Disputes between men in progressive countries are no longer legally settled either by crude attack with bowie-knife or shot gun, or by orderly duel with sword or pistol. Why? Because late-dawning common sense in this benighted old world realizes that in such conflicts the wrong man is likely to be victor; on the principal that the sneaking house-breaker is always better prepared for a successful struggle than the half-awake and honest, but thoroughly nervous, householder. In theory, of course, "the righteous is as bold as a lion;" in practice, however, the rending and devouring strength of the king of beasts has been too often on the opposing side.

Thus with advancing enlightenment, we canvass numberless disputes before a properly constituted tribunal, and though the law's delays are tedious, though judges prove that they are men by making errors, yet we all concede that things are better managed than when "knights were bold, and barons held their sway." The glamour of fiction still lingers over that period when the point of a lance was a proof beyond all questioning; but the clear, real light of modernity shows us that, in our day, there are rights to the weak and victories to the righteous. This is advance, and he is benighted who denies it.

Broaden the thought now, if you will, and answer to yourself the question. "If my neighbor and I do well to avoid blows in a dispute, then why not let my numberless neighbors do the same when a dispute arises with those of another nation?" A very reasonable objection will be that perfection has not yet been reached in the conduct of individuals or nations. True. So we sometimes by force compel obedience to the rulings of a court; and we often by law use force to stay the hand of the quarrelsome and murderous. This is all granted, and the same will be nationally true even when the common-sense of arbitration permeates the conscience of the five nations of the world. During the past three weeks we have seen proof of this in the fact after President Cleveland had arbitrated in a dispute between Italy and the U. S. of Columbia, Italy was compelled to make a show of force in order to secure settlement. We too since April 21st, after all reasonable means had failed, have been compelled, at great expense in money and in men, to do police duty in staying the slaughtering hand of Spain, that unprogressive employer of Cortez and of Pizarro, of Torquemada and of Weyler. But as bloody disputes among men are reaching a minimum because of the sanity shall the same end be reached among nations. For though murders still occur and though wars still rage, yet are they, we believe, storms whose force is expended, as at sea, on the surface, while the great currents go on their stately way to moderate fierce climates and make them the happy homes of men.

Starting once more with the initial statement about common-sense, let us look abroad for awhile in order to prove the point. In Europe are four of the five great nations that lead the world; Russia, Germany, France, England. Notwithstanding their progressiveness in other directions they seem to be afflicted with national dementia by reason of the rivalry of force. For nearly twenty years, not one of them has been involved in a serious European war; yet throughout all those years, and long before, each of these great powers has been piling up armaments, increasing army and navy budgets, multiplying destructive forces, and exhausting to the point of protest the pockets of the great common people upon whom the burden of all this falls. What result has accrued? Nothing. They are all relatively where they were at the outset and as disinclined as ever to come to a real test of strength. The vauntings and boastings of idiots have a grim humor.

E. C. Blanks, of Lewisville, Texas, writes that one box of DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve was worth \$50.00 to him. It cured his piles of ten years standing. He advises others to try it. It also cures eczema, skin diseases and obstinate sores.—E. T. Whitehead & Co.

mor and one can afford to smile at them; but smiling is forbidden when we realize that all this increase of apparent strength among European nations is really an increase of weakness. Taking as an example the case of Germany, with its lordly chancellors who prates of "divine rights," and we shall realize how like a wasting consumption is this reliance on force?

The function of the army abroad is to starve out all originality in the rank and file, so as to transform the men into so many unfeeling, unthinking machines. The perfection of discipline is to make them do, heedless of consequences, just exactly as they are commanded. This destruction of initiative takes place, too, just when the young men are best fitted to throw into productive lines their super-abundant energy. Yet this is only a part of the injustice; for the army relentlessly takes from home the young and capable and turns them into receivers of alms, like the paupers and the demented. The army produces nothing but demands everything. It places upon those who are least vigorous the burden of supporting those who are most vigorous. Then having ground away the individuality of the soldier by years of Draconian severity, he is thrown back into the world with wrong ideas of labor; and he needs must go through a second attempt to adjust himself to life as it really is, and not life as the few military years have led him to think it to be. The whole tendency of the system is to put brakes on the wheels of progress; and to create discontent. Common-sense among the common people is making them feel that they are in the position of the fabled cat whose paw was used to drag out hot chestnuts for military monkeys. The parade and the show do not help the people up, but hold them down so that a military few may swagger over them and trample on them.

The cure of this insanity of force may come from without; it will never come from within except by bloody revolutions. Possibly our next great national duty is to open the eyes of those who think they see.—We shall pursue the subject of arbitration further next week.

### Women Who Should Not Marry.

New York Times.  
The woman who proudly declares that she cannot hem a pocket handkerchief, never made up a bed in her life, and adds with a simper that she has "been in society ever since she was fifteen."

The woman who thinks she can get \$5,000 worth of style out of a one thousand dollar salary.

The woman who wants to refurbish her house every Spring.

The woman who buys for the mere pleasure of buying.

The woman who would rather die than wear a bonnet two years old.

The woman who thinks that the cook and nurse can keep house.

The woman who reads cheap novels, and dreams of being a duchess or a countess.

The woman who marries in order to have somebody to pay her bills.

The woman who cares more for the style of her winter cloak than she cares for the health and comfort of her children.

The woman who stays at home only when she cannot find a place to visit.

The woman who thinks embroidered centrepieces and "dolites" are more necessary than sheets, pillow cases, and blankets.

The woman who buys bric-a-brac for the parlor and borrows kitchen utensils from her neighbors.

The woman whose cleanliness and order extend no further than the drawing-room.

The woman who wants things just because "other women" have them.

The woman who thinks she is an ornament to her sex if she wins a progressive eucure prize.

Persons troubled with diarrhoea will be interested in the experience of Mr. W. M. Bush, clerk of Hotel Dorrance, Providence, R. I. He says: "For several years I have been almost a constant sufferer from diarrhoea the frequent attacks completely prostrating me and rendering me unfit for my duties at this hotel. About two years ago a traveling salesman kindly gave me a small bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. Much to my surprise and delight its effects were immediate. Whenever I felt symptoms of the disease I would fortify myself against the attack with a few doses of this valuable remedy. The result has been very satisfactory and almost complete relief from the affliction." For sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

## A ROMANCE OF WAR.

The Scene Laid Near Smithfield, Johnston County.

HOW THE CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS SAVED HER VALUABLES.

SHE WAS MARRIED THREE TIMES.

She Still Lives Near Smithfield Retaining Much of Her Beauty.

Asheville Citizen.

When the struggle at arms between the North and the South was nearing the end—when, in fact, the end was but a few weeks off—Johnston's army encamped in the neighborhood of Smithfield, in Johnston county, N. C. When it became known that the Federal troops would invade the country thereabouts to engage the Confederates, the fact gave much anxiety to the Widow Mitchener, a beautiful young woman whose splendid estate and chests of plate would have been coveted booty for the conquering army. The house—it was a "mansion" in those days—stood about two miles south by southeast of Smithfield. It was an imposing structure, colonial in style, with great columns and the double porch that was a feature of the more pretentious architecture of those days. It was one of the most notable houses of the whole country side, and had for years been the scene of many a gay assemblage of the belles and beaux of the county. It is related that when its builder, Agrippa Mitchener, had his housewarming there was a celebration that lasted three days and nights. A band was brought from Goldsboro and the entertainment was of such elaborate character that it was for years looked back to as a great event in the country's social history.

Such, then, was the place of which the Widow Mitchener was mistress at the time the events here related took place. Fearing that the Federals would confiscate all her valuables, Mrs. Mitchener appealed to the Confederates to aid her in the dilemma. The request was granted, and a detail of 12 men, under command of Lieutenant J. C. Carter, of a Georgia company, was ordered to protect the property. They pitched tents and remained there for some weeks. After a consultation it was decided that the best thing to be done was to hide the money, jewels and silver where the eyes of the soldiers of the hostile army would not be likely to discover them. But how? The details were left to Lieutenant Carter, and the result showed how thoroughly the work was done. The secret was confided only to the detail, it being thought inadvisable to entrust it to the servants. Selecting a favorable night, Lieutenant Carter and his men dug a hole in an obscure part of the barn, each shovelful of earth being deposited upon a blanket that there might be no trace left for prying eyes. The men conveyed thither all of the valuables of the mansion, and having deposited them in the hole, the earth was replaced and carefully stamped, the surplus being carried some distance into the wood and scattered to the winds.

The task was not completed till well nigh dawn, and then there remained 16 bushels of wheat to be stowed away. The plans had been well laid, however, and the disposition of the grain was soon accomplished. The huge columns on the porches of the mansion were hollow, and through a hole forced at the top the wheat was poured into the columns, the last place a searcher would expect to find what he sought.

Next morning a test of the thoroughness of the work was made when Mrs. Mitchener, who knew nothing of the location of the valuables, endeavored to find them. After a long search she gave it up as impossible, and then was given directions whereby the property might be found when the cruel war was over.

Not long afterwards the Northern troops came, and a little later the battle of Bentonville, one of the last of the war, was fought, and Lieutenant Carter was surrendered with Johnston's forces.

For more than 30 years Lieutenant Carter, living at Atlanta, had heard no word of one of the principal actors in the incident, and did not even know whether the property had been recovered, although it frequently occurred to him when in a reminiscent mood. Last week he came to Asheville to visit his daughter, Mrs. Frank Carter. While here he met Dr. M. C. Millender, and in conversation he learned that the doctor had lived in Johnston county, and the story was related. Dr. Millender knew Mrs. Mitchener, and

from him Lieutenant Carter was able to hear the first word he had heard of her since the days his detail protected her property. Here he first heard that Mrs. Mitchener found her valuables intact, the wheat having been recovered by drawing it through a hole at the base of the columns. Dr. Millender referred to A. L. Parker, a Montford avenue merchant, formerly a resident of Johnston county, who furnishes much additional information concerning Mrs. Mitchener. She was a Miss Seely, daughter of Dr. Seely, of New York State, and came South as a teacher at a time when it was common for wealthy families to employ tutors for their children. She was wooed and won by Agrippa Mitchener, a wealthy old widower. He died and the widow some years afterwards married Major Hastings, another elderly widower of considerable means. One child was born to them. Major Hastings lived only a few years, and his widow in due time married a third time, her husband being Poley Gardner, a young man. The couple are living at the old homestead, and Mrs. Gardner is said to retain, in spite of her years, much of the wondrous beauty that was hers when the young schoolma'am came South. Mr. Parker says she is one of the most intelligent women he ever saw.

### Origin of Textile Names.

Salt Culture.  
About the year 1329 the woolen trade of England became located at Worsted, about fifteen miles from Norwich, and it was at this place that the manufacture of the twisted double thread of woolen, afterwards called worsted, was first made, if not invented. Linsey-Woolsey was first made at Linsey, and was for a long time a very popular fabric. Kerseymere takes its name from the village of Kersey, and the mere close by it, in the county of Suffolk. We have to thank Gaza, in Palestine, the gates of which Sampson carried away, for gaze or gauze. Gaza means "treasure;" and precious to the fair is the tissue which covers without concealing their charms. Voltaire, wishing to describe some intellectual but perhaps some dressy woman, said, "She is an eagle in a cage of gauze." Muslin owes its name to Mossoul, a fortified town in Turkey in Asia. Tulle obtains its name from that of a town in the south of France. Travelers by rail in Britain often glide past Guingamp without remembering that it was here that was first produced that useful fabric gingham. Damask derives its name from the city of Damascus; calico from Calicut, a town in India formerly celebrated for its cotton cloth, and there also calico was printed; cambric from Cambray, a town in Flanders, where it was first made; and tweed from a fabric worn by fishermen upon the river Tweed.

### The Defects of Our Friend.

Christian Commonwealth.  
Most of our friends do not come up to our ideas of physical perfection. When you look critically at the face of your wife or sister you do not find it difficult to suggest some trifling improvements, and the man to whom your soul cleaves in loyal friendship is a short, dumpy fellow who never could by any possibility be mistaken for an Apollo. But you realize so perfectly that your wife's retreating nose cannot be changed or your dumpy friend be elongated that you are quite content to take them as they are. Indeed, their very imperfections commend themselves to you, and you would not have Mary or John different than they are if you could make them over. But strangely enough, this indifference to physical defects is often associated in our minds with a strange intolerance of imperfections of mind or disposition. Your friend takes narrow views, and shows no interest in what lies beyond a limited range. Your wife has a certain peculiarity of temper that sometimes puts her out of an angelic mood. Why should you not look at these variations in the same light as physical imperfections? It will be quite as difficult to change them. You remember the story of the man who set about forming his wife's mind. "With all thy faults I love thee still" is a pleasant song.

If all great deeds got into print the world would not hold the books.

Calvary's death scenes were the alphabet of the resurrection glory.

Men who are honest for policy's sake are generally dishonest at the heart.

The Chief Burgess of Milesburg, Pa. says Dewitt's Little Early Risers are the best pills he ever used in his family during forty years of house keeping. They cure constipation, sick headache and stomach and liver troubles. Small in size but great in results.—E. T. Whitehead & Co.

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Dept. 909, BALTIMORE, MD.

### NOTICE.

North Carolina Superior Court Halifax County. S. M. Gary, Clerk. W. E. Staton & wife Olivia and M. F. Pierce vs. J. W. Womble and wife Mary C. Womble. By virtue of the order of the court in the above entitled special proceedings, I will on the 29th day of July 1898, in Room 200, N. C., sell for cash at public auction to the highest bidder, that tract of land of which R. B. Pierce, died seized and possessed, containing 60 acres more or less, lying near Bowling N. C., on the North side of the public road leading from Weldon to Gaston adjoining the lands of M. B. Ivey, Mrs. George Hales' land and others. CLAUDE KITCHIN, Commissioner. 6-30-98.

### SALE OF LAND.

By virtue of a Decree of the Superior Court of Halifax county rendered the 13th day of June, 1898, in the case of S. G. Daniel, administrator of Isom Banks against Sterling Banks and others, I shall sell to the highest bidder at the Court-house door in Halifax on Monday, the first day of August, 1898. That tract of land situated in Halifax county on which Isom Banks resided at the time of his death, containing sixty-two acres, adjoining the lands of M. E. Newson, James Glasgow, S. Johnson and others, said land is sold for assets to pay debts. Terms of sale one half cash, the balance in six months—bond with good security required of the purchaser for the deferred payment, and title to the land retained till all the purchase money is paid. Halifax, N. C. S. G. DANIEL, June 30, 1898. Administrator. 6-30-98.

### Fire and Life Insurance.

The very best fire companies represented. The Aetna Life so well known in this community is still here giving the best policy of the day and has increased its dividends annually without interruption for the past 25 years. It has paid out over \$70,000 in this community during the past 25 years. There is none better or more reliable company than the Old Aetna. J. H. LAWRENCE, Agt., Office over L. W. Harrell & Co.'s store. 2-3-1y.

### 60 Day Sale.

We have several thousand dollars worth of goods to close out in the next 60 days at and below cost. Come quick. If you can't come, send orders by mail. Remember we pay the freight on all goods bought at one time amounting to \$5.00 and over. We are shipping goods to almost every shipping point in this part of the State.  
Spring calico 3, 3 1/2. Curtain poles wood fixtures 22c. Heavy Rugs 1x2 yds 88c. Lace curtains 13x31 yds 75c per pair. Hosiery 33c. Window shades on spring rollers 12 1/2, 18c with fringe 20, 22 1/2. With fringe and fancy paintings and gilt work 25, 30c. Lace curtain scrim yd wide 4c. Men's very wide brim straw hats 5c. Boys' fancy straw hats 5c. Ladies' ready-made wasted skirts black and colors 98c, \$1.25. White dress goods 3, 4, 6c. Unbleached sheeting 3, 4c. Several hundred yards fancy curtain dropery yd wide 4 1/2, 5c. 1450 yards spring dress goods, over 200 styles 8 1/2, 9c. Art squares and druggists 2x2 1/2 yds \$1.63 each. We have just received a large consignment of Japanese cotton warp matting. Regular price 22c. We offer this lot for 8, 10, 12, 15c. Heavy China matting 6, 8, 12c. We are having a big rush on matting, and this consignment will not last long at these cut prices. All orders by mail promptly filled.  
**H. C. SPIERS & DAVIS,**  
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We can supply you with any and all kinds of Wall Paper in the latest and prettiest designs, at astonishingly low prices. It is direct from the great manufacturers, United States Wall Paper Co., of Cincinnati, and is the latest and most up-to-date paper on the market. E. T. WHITEHEAD & CO.